GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:140
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
TRANSPORT SUBSIDY FOR SUGAR EXPORTING MILLS
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering to introduce transport subsidy for sugar exporting mills;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government are taking any steps to ensure that the farmers get the right price of sugarcane in time from the sugar mill owners; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a),(b),(c)&(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c)&(d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.140 DUE FOR ANSWER O
03-2002 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. It has been decided to amend the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 in this regard.

(c)&(d): The State Governments have the necessary powers and field agencies to enforce timely payment of cane prices to the sugarcane growers. The Central Government also reviews the cane price payment position from time to time and writes to the concerned State Governments to ensure timely payment of cane price dues.

Some of the measures taken by the Central Government to enable the sugarfactories to make timely payment of cane prices are as follows:

(i) The levy percentage was reduced from 40 to 30 with effect from 1.1.2000 and from 30 to 15 with effect from 1.2.2001. The levy percentage has been further reduced to 10 from 1.3.2002.

(ii) Needy sugar factories having cane price dues are given advance freesale release of sugar subject to the condition that the sales realizations from the advance freesale sugar are utilized for payment of cane price dues.

(iii) The Central Government has allowed the sugar factories to sell an additional quota upto 10% of their quarterly quota of non-levy, freesale sugar subject to the condition that the realisations from the sale of additional quota of sugar are utilized for payment of cane price dues.

(iv) The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 has been amended empowering the Central Government/ State Government/authorised officers to recover cane price dues as arrears of land revenue.